



All About Staffing at Co-op Camp

Approximately 50 staff will be required
this summer. You can be one.



Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

What qualifications are needed in staff people?

- Personable—able to get along with people
- Strong communication skills
- Like young people
- Enjoy “camp-like” environment
- Open-minded, enthusiastic and energetic
- Good organizational skills
- Co-operative and a team player
- Committed to being a good role model

All staff must be dedicated to advancing the aim of the Youth Program:

"to contribute to the personal development of youth and encourage their active involvement in community and co-operative organizations."



“Co-op Camp helps to make a positive impact on youth in Saskatchewan. It is important to educate youth about the fundamentals of co-operatives.”

– Jordan, Conexus CU

What is Co-op Camp (SCYP)?

Co-op Camp, also known as the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program (SCYP) is a program of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association.

The program teaches young people about co-ops, and helps them gain the self-confidence, leadership, and communication skills they need to become co-operative leaders. Co-op Camp is funded by the Saskatchewan co-operative sector and local co-operatives or credit unions sponsor every young person who attends a camp.

What do we do at Co-op Camp?

Co-op Camp is a four or five day getaway at a summer camp facility in Saskatchewan that involves 20 to 40 participants and approximately seven staff, including a co-ordinator.

Over the course of each camp, participants and staff take part in games, canoeing, swimming and campfires. They also participate in fun, hands-on educational sessions on topics such as leadership, communication, co-operatives, values, and more.

What is the role of a staff member?

Responsibilities include: working with your staff team to plan the camp, planning and leading a session, participating in all sessions, social and recreational events, supervising the participants throughout the time at camp, being involved in cooking and cleanup, daily meetings with your staff group and being a positive role model for participants. You will be provided with a curriculum manual that will contain all the information you need to plan your session. Don't worry – all other responsibilities will be fully outlined for you at Staff Training.

I don't have experience working with young people. Should I staff?

If you have enthusiasm and an open mind, limited experience working with youth is not a barrier to your participation. The Staff Training workshop in late May will provide you with all the resources and information you need for your camp. As well, each staff team has a Program Assistant, co-ordinator and experienced staff members, so you will have lots of guidance and support throughout the week.

What will I get out of staffing?

There are many reasons to staff: to help make a difference in the lives of youth, to meet and work with co-operative sector employees from around Saskatchewan, to polish presentation and leadership skills, to share information about your co-operative or credit union, to refresh your knowledge of co-operatives and the co-op principles, and to have an amazing, unique experience with a great group of people!



How certain do I have to be about my decision and my attendance at Staff Training if I choose to staff?

Certain! In order to make up the staff teams, the Co-op Camp office has to plan early and know that commitments are firm.

Staff Training is an important time to meet your staff team, learn about your role as a staff person and work as a team to plan your camp. Therefore, attendance at the entire Staff Training workshop is a mandatory prerequisite for staffing, even for returning staff.

I WANT TO STAFF. WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?

1. Decide which camp you would like to attend. Details of camp locations and dates and outlines of camp themes and activities can be found on the next page.
2. Seek the approval of your supervisor. Be sure they understand the need for a firm commitment.
3. Print off the PDF online at <http://www.sask.coop/youth/co-op-camp/staff> or fill out the enclosed application form, and mail or email it to our office at:
Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program
1515 20th Street West Saskatoon, SK S7M 0Z5
scyp@sask.coop
4. Reserve May 21 - 23, 2020 for Staff Training at STRASBOURG BIBLE CAMP. New and Junior staff start: 7PM on Thurs., May 21. Experienced staff start: 12PM on Fri., May 22, and all finish at 3PM on Saturday, May 23.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 13th, 2020

If you have any questions about staffing Co-op Camp, please contact us at:
Telephone: (306) 343-3583 or (306) 244-3702
E-mail: scyp@sask.coop

WORD ON THE STREET

“[Staffing camp] was so emotionally rewarding. Watching all of the participants blossom and build everlasting friendships. I can't wait to staff again.”
– Melinda, Pineland Co-op

“[Staffing Co-op Camp] is a great way to learn leadership skills I can apply to my everyday life. I thought I would be the one teaching to the youth participants, but it's really the other way around too! I loved bonding with participants and staff.”
– Diana, Affinity CU

Choosing a Camp

Junior - Ages 12 and 13

Averages 20-30 participants, with a maximum of 35

- For 12 and 13 year olds who are new to the program.
- Participants will explore how they belong to the world of co-operatives, the media, friendships and groups.
- Includes sessions on deconstructing the media, consensus building, and co-operatives – locally and globally.
- Camp dates for Junior are **July 7 - 11, 2020.**

Introductory - Ages 14 and 15

Averages 20-30 participants, with a maximum 60

- For 14 and 15 year olds who are new to the program or participants who have attended the Junior level.
- Includes sessions on individuals, groups, communication, community, co-operatives, and global development.
- Participants form and run a co-operative canteen under staff supervision.
- Camp dates for Introductory are **July 11 - 15 and July 22 - 27, 2020.**

Intermediate - Ages 16 to 18

Averages 20-40 participants, with a maximum of 60

- For 16 to 18 year olds who are new to the program or participants who have attended the Introductory level.
- Participants select recreational and social activities.
- Includes sessions on co-operative principles, leadership, human differences and understanding, trust and openness, and more.
- Camp date for Intermediate is **July 27 - 31, 2020.**

Graduate - All Ages Welcome

Approximately 20-30 participants, with a maximum of 60

- For participants who have successfully completed the Intermediate level.
- Participants set the goals and design the week's schedule.
- Provides participants with an opportunity to voice their opinions on co-operative issues, particularly youth involvement. Other sessions include teamwork and consensus, values, and more.
- Camp date for the Graduate level is **July 31 - August 5, 2020.**

Senior Grad - All Ages Welcome

Approximately 20-30 participants, with a maximum of 48

- For participants who have completed the Graduate level
- Participants take on more leadership and responsibility for the goals and design of the camp.
- Participants put into practice the co-operation and leadership skills they have learned in past levels, while developing new skills for the workforce and life.
- Senior Grad Camp is held biennially. Next camp is **Summer 2021.**

Camp Locations:

Junior and Introductory 1 camps are held at Hannin Creek Camp, Candle Lake. Introductory 2, Intermediate, and Graduate camps are held at Strasbourg Bible Camp, Last Mountain Lake.

Both locations have modern indoor washrooms and showers.

Notes:

The responsibilities of staff members are very similar at every level. Each staff team will have a combination of experienced and new staff members, so your level of experience should have no bearing on your choice of camps.

You must meet in Saskatoon the night before your camp begins, for a staff meeting. You will then be transported to Camp, from Saskatoon.